



GAIL FARBER, Director

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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September 16, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

31 September 16, 2014

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### **FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF LANCASTER (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)**

#### **SUBJECT**

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board pursuant to Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, which provides for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

#### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

40982 168th Street East, Lancaster, California 93535  
40720 168th Street East, Lancaster, California 93535

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Integrated Service Delivery (Goal 3) as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance. This action will also maximize opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety services.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owner(s). Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Building Code provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owner(s) be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, the Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to the Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of the substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

The Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before the Board.

ADDRESS: 40982 168th Street East, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by September 19, 2014, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter, and (b) that by September 19, 2014, the wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicles and parts thereof be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

#### **List of Defects**

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.

2. Overgrown vegetation, dead trees, and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
3. Broken or discarded furniture and/or household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
5. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
6. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperative vehicles or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 40720 168th Street East, Lancaster , California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by September 19, 2014, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, and overgrown vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter, (b) that by September 19, 2014, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to code, and (c) that the structure be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry.

#### List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building was open, accessible to children, vandalized, and existed as a fire hazard and a threat to public safety and welfare, until it was barricaded, as requested by the Fire Department.
3. Doors and windows are broken.
4. The electrical system is nonconforming.
5. Attractive nuisances in the form of abandoned or broken equipment and neglected machinery.
6. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
7. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

The interior of the building was not readily accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Not applicable.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

9/16/2014

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The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstructs the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:DH:nm

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)  
County Counsel  
Executive Office